

VZCZCXYZ0000
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHVI #3341 3201035
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 161035Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5563
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 1099
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 0785
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BAKU PRIORITY 0335
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1691
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 1085
RUEHSL/AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA PRIORITY 1984
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 1176
RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY 1385
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY 1194
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0207
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0471
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY 0217
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 0424
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0442
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0097
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 0376
RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA PRIORITY 1458
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0682
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 0121
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0764
RUEHNH/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0454
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0471
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0775
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY 1430
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY 0100
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA PRIORITY 0634
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 2662
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0160
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE PRIORITY 1254
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY 1102
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 0467
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN PRIORITY 0565
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 1011
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA PRIORITY 1036
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PRIORITY 0587
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 1332
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0085
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 1756
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0485

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 003341

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/AGS - SAINT-ANDRE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/16/2016

TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [NATO](#) [PINS](#) [AG](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA ON NATO/AFGHANISTAN -- CONTINUATION OF PRESENT COMMITMENT

REF: STATE 186256

Classified By: Economic-Political Counselor Gregory E. Phillips. Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (SBU) EconPolCouns delivered reftel demarche on November 18 to Thomas Hajnoczi, the Austrian MFA's A/S-level Director for Political-Military Affairs.

¶2. (C) Hajnoczi said the importance of the NATO mission in Afghanistan was clear. He noted that the Austrian government had announced on November 17 that it would recommend that parliament authorize the extension of Austria's overseas military missions for another year. This includes authorization for "up to ten" staff officers to participate in ISAF activities in the Kabul area. He said ISAF requirements had called for the actual deployment of four

officers, and he expected this to remain the case in the future.

¶3. (C) Hajnoczi said he would share our points with the government leadership. However, he noted, it was highly unlikely that Austria would increase the level of its commitment, especially in the short term. The current government, which is acting in a caretaker role while Austria's political parties attempt to organize a new government, had only been able to win approval for larger missions on a temporary basis (such as last Fall, when Austria sent almost 100 troops to provide security for the elections). It will not be able to undertake such an initiative in its caretaker role. One could expect a new government to be less likely than the previous one to enhance the Austrian military presence in Afghanistan, he said.

MCCAW